REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.   Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9-12 and claims 2-3 and 7 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-6 and 8-12 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 2-3 and claim 7 have been incorporated into claim 1. The elements cited in claim 7 have been incorporated into claims 9-12.

Regarding the rejection of claim 7, the Examiner stated that the previously cited reference Graveman teaches:

> ...(1) further comprising communicating at least a contribution to the message from a sender to a receiver via a first communications channel (column 5, lines 36-40 of Graveman)...;

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Graveman, column 5, lines 36-40 provides:

> The transmission of the message and the AMAC may be over a noisy channel. If an initial value 1 is used, it should be transmitted over a reliable channel, such as in an out-of-band channel or using an error correction code.

Graveman does not refer to a first communications in contrast to a second communications channel. The Examiner further states that Graveman teaches:

> ...communicating the tag value and/or the key from the sender to the receiver via a second communications channel different from the first communications channel (column 10, lines 16-26 of Graveman).

Applicant disagrees. Graveman, column 10, lines 16-26 provides:

> Therefore, the AMAC provides absolute authentication of the origin of the message-if the sender or receiver is an imposter or otherwise does

not have the same shared key or pseudo-random bit string, the result is likely to be substantially different and should be rejected. The AMAC alerts the recipient that message M' may have slight changes, for example, due to hidden data inserted after generation of the original AMAC. The longer the AMAC (i.e, the value of IAI), the fewer rows will be in the table 604. This will result 25 in an AMAC that is more sensitive to bit differences than a shorter AMAC having more rows.

Again, Graveman does not refer to using a first communications in contrast to a second communications channel. Clearly, Graveman does not disclose nor suggest the use of a first communications channel for the message and a second communications channel for the tag value/key. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,
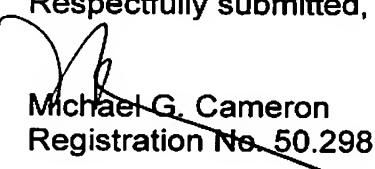
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